



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

July 24, 2009

Mr. Daniel G. Wheeland, Director
Office of Research Facilities Development and Operations
National Institutes of Health
B13/2W64
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20852

Attn: Ms. Valerie Nottingham

RE: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Transport of Laboratory Personnel Potentially Exposed to Infectious Agents from Fort Detrick, Frederick Maryland to the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center, Bethesda, Maryland (CEQ No. 20090156)

Dear Mr. Wheeland:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above referenced DEIS in accordance with the National Environmental Policies Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA). The document (1) describes the baseline environmental conditions of the transportation routes, (2) analyzes the potential effects to the existing environment of the transportation of potentially exposed personnel and (3) compares the transportation effects of the Proposed Action Alternative to the No Action Alternative.

In accordance with NEPA and Section 309 of the CAA, EPA is rating the Proposed Action as Lack of Objections (LO). For more information on our rating guidelines go to: www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/comments/ratings.html

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this document. If you have any questions regarding our comments please contact Ms. Jamie Davis at 570-842-1044 or by email at davis.jamie@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara J. Rudnick", is written over a horizontal line.

Barbara J. Rudnick
NEPA Team Leader
Office of Environmental Programs

